MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

11 AUGUST 1982

Lebanon

Israeli Position -- Israel approves "in principle" U.S. envoy Philip Habib's plan for the departure of "all the terrorists and the Syrians from Beirut and Lebanon," but has suggested a number of amendments to Habib, according to a 10 August Israeli Cabinet resolution broadcast by Jerusalem radio. Jerusalem television said the amendments demanded by Israel are: The Syrians must leave Beirut with the "terrorists"; UN observers should not be deployed; the multinational force will only enter Beirut after most of the "terrorists" and Syrians leave the city; the "terrorists" will return to Israel the prisoner they are holding as well as the bodies of nine Israeli soldiers; if the "terrorists" refuse to leave Beirut, the mandate of the multinational force will be rescinded and it will leave Lebanon; only the Lebanese Army and not a French or any other force should enter Beirut on the 1st day of the evacuation; the "terrorists" who leave by sea will only depart via Beirut port; and there will be no disengagement of forces or IDF withdrawal before the evacuation. According to a related Jerusalem radio report, Israel stipulates that the multinational force must stay in Beirut for only 30 days.

Israeli political sources subsequently described Syria's decision to receive PLO fighters as "a big step forward," IDF radio noted. Earlier, in a press conference broadcast live by the radio, the Israeli Cabinet secretary said the main problem was finding host countries to take all the departing "terrorists." Asked the purpose of continued Israeli military action, he claimed that all recent IDF operations were in retaliation for cease-fire violations by the "terrorists." Meanwhile, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon told the U.S. ambassador that the IDF will continue to react to every cease-fire violation despite U.S. requests, Jerusalem radio reported. Nevertheless, Prime Minister Menahem Begin acceded to requests by some Cabinet members for restraint in military activity, according to the radio.

Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir described Habib's proposals for the removal of some "12,000 terrorists" from Beirut as "reasonable," IDF radio reported.

Arab States Accept PLO Fighters -- Syria, Tunisia, Sudan, Iraq, the YAR and the PDRY have agreed to accept PLO fighters from Beirut. The Syrian Ba'th Party Regional Command said that despite its previous stand, "in light of the current circumstances" Syria would welcome all fighters the PLO command wishes to send, Damascus radio reported. In a Tunisian Foreign Ministry statement carried by Tunis radio, the Tunisian president said he would welcome the first group of Palestinian fighters to leave Beirut; in a cable to the Lebanese prime minister, he said Tunisia would receive 1,000 fighters, Voice of Lebanon radio noted. The Sudanese president cabled PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat reiterating Sudan's acceptance of 600 Palestinian fighters, SUNA reported. According to Monte Carlo radio, authoritative Iraqi sources asserted that Iraq objects to Palestinians leaving Beirut but would accept the fighters if asked by the PLO. San'a' radio reported that the leaders of the YAR and the PDRY expressed readiness to receive "a number" of Palestinian fighters.

In Egypt, an official meeting was held between Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali and PLO Executive Committee member Ahmad Sidqi ad-Dajani on the Lebanon situation, MENA reported. Ad-Dajani linked a possible withdrawal of Palestinians to Egypt with a "clear reply" from the United States on the duration of the PLO's stay in Arab countries, MENA said. A subsequent MENA report revealed that Ghali reaffirmed Egypt will not accept PLO fighters unless there is a comprehensive solution to the Palestinian issue, within the framework of a U.S. commitment to the solution.

According to Voice of Lebanon radio, former Lebanese Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam disclosed that Syria will receive 4,600 PLO fighters, 2,600 of whom will be fighters and their families who come from Syria. He also said 1,000 fighters will go to Jordan.

'Arafat Interview -- PLO Chairman 'Arafat said in a LE MONDE interview that the PLO would establish relations with any state which recognized the Palestinian right to self-determination. He reiterated his acceptance of all UN resolutions related to the Palestinian question, stressing that Israel too was created by a UN resolution. 'Arafat proposed that a conference be held after the Lebanon fighting to allow Palestinian, Israeli and Arab scholars to discuss the PLO Charter and reach conclusions.

Military Situation -- Israeli planes mounted 26 air raids against southern Beirut during the afternoon of 10 August and Israeli warships also pounded the area, according to the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio. The IDF spokesman said the air force attacked "terrorist" positions in Burj al-Barajinah, where there were almost no civilians, Jerusalem radio reported. The spokesman also announced that the air force attacked and destroyed a Syrian SAM-9 launcher in the Al-Biqa' region.

The Israelis continued to shell Beirut on 11 August, according to the Voice of Palestine. In statements reported by Jerusalem radio, the IDF spokesman announced that three IDF soldiers were wounded when the "terrorists" violated the cease-fire during the night and that two Israeli soldiers were killed by a mine in central Lebanon. The Voice of Lebanon said 16 people were killed or injured by the Israeli bombing of Beirut.

Citing the Tunisian weekly AL-ANWAR, KUNA reported that Cuba has offered to assist Syria in the event of a large-scale confrontation with the Israelis. Monitored Cuban sources have not been observed to mention this.

Supplies for West Beirut -- The IDF has allowed the International Red Cross to bring field hospitals and supplies into west Beirut, Jerusalem radio noted.

U.S. Landing -- Reporting that several U.S. helicopters have landed in Juniyah, Jerusalem radio said it was not clear whether they contained elements of the multinational force or U.S. officers on an inspection tour. Earlier, ITIM reported that an Israeli missile boat was patrolling the Lebanese coast to prevent unauthorized landings.

Reaction to Paris Terrorist Attack

Israeli Prime Minister Begin said that if the French authorities do not prevent the murder of Jews, he will not hesitate to call on French Jews to actively defend their lives, according to a statement broadcast by Jerusalem radio. In Beirut, WAFA carried a statement denying that the PLO was responsible for the recent shooting in Paris, AFP reported. Meanwhile, the French foreign minister accused the Palestinian dissident group led by Abu Nidal of the deed, Paris radio reported.

Iraq

In a meeting with SFRY Presidency member Cvijetin Mijatovic, reported by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio, President Saddam Husayn emphasized Iraq is not insisting that the nonaligned conference be held in Baghdad. He said it should be held wherever the movement agrees, even if this means the conference would be held in Tehran, where there is a "hostile attitude" toward Iraq and the nonaligned.

Iran

In a speech to a military unit cited by Tehran radio, Commander of the Ground Forces Col 'Ali Sayyad Shirazi announced a new operation in northwest Iran to eliminate the "remnants" of counterrevolutionaries in that area. On the Iran-Iraq war, Sayyad Shirazi said that as a result of the Ramadan Operation, Iranian forces captured 150 armored vehicles and 150 square km of Iraqi territory, and killed over 5,000 Iraqis.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 155 *11 August 1982*

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW 1

REGIONAL AFFAIRS

South Asian Foreign Secretaries Issue Communique [Karachi] A 1

AFGHANISTAN

Communications Minister Returns From USSR C 1
Karmal Receives Tribal Representatives C 1
AFP: Kabul Depot Attacked; Gol Aqa 'Sacked' C 2
Mujahidin Kill 70 Soviet, Afghan Soldiers C 3
[Karachi JASARAT 7 Aug]
Reports on Volunteers for Military Service Cited C 3

BANGLADESH

Somali Envoy Meets Ershad; Iraqi Envoy Departs D 1
PRC Foreign Trade Delegation Arrives 8 August D 1
Trial of Two Former Ministers, Others Begins D 1
[THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER 29 Jul]

INDIA

Gandhi Receives Messages From Castro, Husayn E 1
Rafsanjani Arrives, Speaks on Baghdad Meeting E 1
Commentator Views Economic Cooperation With U.S. E 1
India-USSR Space Flight To Be Kept 'Secret' E 3
[PATRIOT 2 Aug]
Charan Singh Removed From Lok Dal Presidency E 3
Extension on President's Rule in Assam Approved E 3

OTHER COUNTRIES

SRI LANKA

Presidential Elections To Be Held in 2-3 Months G 1
Jayewardene, Iraqi Envoy Discuss Summit Venue [AFP] G 1
Foreign Minister Hameed Leaves for Vienna G 1

IRAN

Velayati on Efforts To Change Summit Venue I 1
Rafsanjani Leads Delegation to India 10 August I 1
Soviet Envoy Discusses Relations With Khamene'i I 2
Joint Staff Commander Comments on War Materiel I 2
[JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI 31 Jul]
Commander Announces New Military Headquarters I 3

Reports on Fighting in W. Azarbayjan, Kordestan	I	4
Kurdish Unrest [Free Voice of Iran]	I	4
Crusade Headquarters Attacked	I	5
Divandarreh Cleared of Rebels	I	5
Guards Report Successes	I	5
Bomb Discovered Close to Tehran Prayer Site [ETTELA'AT 31 Jul]	I	5
Former Governor Arrested While Fleeing Country	I	6
Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,012	I	6
Iraqi Pilot Bombs Baghdad Suburb, Shot Down	I	7
Deputies Demand Censure of Housing Minister	I	7
NVOI Urges Better Ties With Friendly Countries	I	7
NVOI: People Demand Better Relations With DRA	I	9
IRNA Reports on Afghan Rebel Operations	I	9

SOUTH ASIAN FOREIGN SECRETARIES ISSUE COMMUNIQUE

BK091300 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Text] The foreign secretaries of the South Asian countries have agreed to recommend to their foreign ministers to convene a meeting at the foreign ministers level between May and September next year to promote and strengthen cooperation. This has been stated in a joint communique issued this afternoon at the end of the third meeting of foreign secretaries of South Asian countries on regional cooperation in Islamabad.

The communique says the foreign minister of Pakistan has been requested to undertake consultations with his counterparts for fixing the date and venue of the ministerial meeting. The foreign secretaries agreed that the regular consultations would be held by the representatives of the countries of the region on matters of common interest relating to international economic issues. It was agreed to constitute a study group on sports, arts and culture.

The foreign secretaries envisaged that the working groups for cooperation in a number of areas would complete their tasks by November this year and submit their reports to the committee of the whole. The committee of the whole, headed by Sri Lanka, comprises senior officials of the seven countries and would meet by mid-January next.

The foreign secretaries recommended the holding of a meeting of representatives of respective national planning organizations of the seven countries in New Delhi prior to the next meeting of the foreign secretaries which would be held at Dacca in February or March next year.

COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER RETURNS FROM USSR

LD101724 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto to 1430 GMT 10 Aug 82

[Text] Mohammad Aslam Watanjar, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and minister of communications, returned to Kabul this morning from the Soviet Union, where he had gone some time ago at the invitation of the USSR Communications Ministry.

He was welcomed at Kabul International Airport by Dr Najibollah, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo; Dr Faqir Mohammad Yaqubi, minister of education and training; the deputy head of protocol of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; deputy ministers and some officials of the Communications Ministry; and the USSR charge d'affaires in Kabul.

Mohammad Aslam Watanjar told the BAKHTAR correspondent that during his visit he had seen the communications departments of Moscow, Belorussia and Uzbekistan. He expressed gratitude for the hospitality of the Soviet people and state officials.

KARMAL RECEIVES TRIBAL REPRESENTATIVES

LD101044 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Text] This afternoon Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, received the representatives of the courageous Madakhel people of the Wazir tribe at the Revolutionary Council headquarters at the Gol Khana Palace, and spoke with them in a free and sincere atmosphere at a tribal assembly.

Brigadier General Gol Aqa, vice chairman of the Revolutionary Council, and Solayman La'eq, minister of nationalities and tribal affairs, were also present. After welcoming the representatives of the militant Madakhel people of the Wazir tribe, Babrak Karmal addressed them, saying: Dear brothers, after the success of the April Revolution, particularly the victory of its new development stage, there is no longer a barrier between the people and the government, as there was in the past. We and you all are as one and have one hope: that a powerful, progressive, developed and prosperous Afghanistan will be built and our people will live in peace, tranquillity and prosperity.

Babrak Karmal's speech was warmly and enthusiastically received by the audience. He added: (?Our forefathers) throughout the history of Afghanistan have fought courageously against enemies and, by creating (?firm) bastions, have manfully defended the homeland and its honor and have not allowed enemies to put their filthy feet on the soil of our dear homeland. Today, when U.S. imperialism, Chinese expansionism, Pakistani militarism and reaction in the region have unleashed an undeclared war against our country, the primary duty that you, courageous and militant Afghans, have is to support our heroic armed forces and create firm fortresses against enemy aggressions and heroically defend the independence, freedom, territorial integrity and honor of the homeland.

Babrak Karmal added: The PDPA, the DRA National Fatherland Front and our revolutionary government consider it their duty to safeguard the customs, traditions and beliefs of all tribes and nationalities inhabiting Afghanistan and to further develop and expand them. We greatly respect our Pashto brothers' traditional tribal assemblies and we would like to create local governments through tribal assemblies in the future. We must hold tribal assemblies to overcome problems and complications and pave the way for building a prosperous and blossoming society in Afghanistan.

Babrak Karmal added: Imperialism's policy against our people has always been to create and exploit discord under various names. In view of this, our people must not fall prey to the hostile propaganda of the enemies of the homeland. In the present conditions all of us have a basic duty to become united and organized under the leadership of the PDPA and our revolutionary government to work and struggle for the prosperity of the people and the freedom of the dear homeland in accordance with the tenets of the sacred religion of Islam.

In conclusion Babrak Karmal once again welcomed the arrival of the representatives of the noble Madakhel people of the Wazir tribe to Kabul, and particularly to the DRA Revolutionary Council headquarters, and asked them to express their demands in a free and democratic atmosphere.

The BAKHTAR correspondent reports that in their speeches a number of the members of the audience, on behalf of others, in their speeches thanked Babrak Karmal for meeting and talking with them. With Afghan pride and courage they pledged that to their last drops of blood they will safeguard the borders of the country against enemy aggressions and once again revive their fathers' and forefathers' names in the struggle against imperialism and reaction in the region.

AFP: KABUL DEPOT ATTACKED; GOL AQA 'SACKED'

BK101507 Hong Kong AFP in English 1431 GMT 10 Aug 82

[Text] New Delhi, Aug. 10 (AFP) -- Several dozen Soviet soldiers were killed when Moslem insurgents attacked an important Soviet ammunition depot in the Afghan capital on August 2-3, Western diplomatic sources said here today.

Insurgents fighting the Soviet-backed government of Babrak Karmal in Kabul attacked the depot in the Bala Hissar fort with rockets and machine gun fire.

They however failed in their attempt to destroy the depot, but in the process killed "dozens of Soviet soldiers," the diplomats said.

There was no independent confirmation of the incident. The Afghan Embassy here refused to comment when contacted. The insurgents also routed two government outposts in the city.

The diplomats said Kabul residents witnessed what they described as the fiercest ever gun battle in the Afghan capital on August 2-3 between the insurgents and the Soviet-backed Afghan Government troops.

Fighting took place in the Karte Parvan and Bagha Bala districts of the city and continued for about 17 hours beginning at dawn of August 2. Fighting was also reported from the entrace of the Lowgar Valley, near Kabul, the diplomats said without giving details.

There was no independent confirmation of the reports. State-owned Kabul radio regularly monitored in the Indian capital did not mention the reported fighting in the country's capital.

Meanwhile, the diplomats reiterated that Lieutenant General Gol Aqa, chief of the Political Affairs Department of the Afghan Defence Ministry, had been sacked and replaced by Lt Gen Yasin Sidiqi.

Diplomats had earlier said that the general, who belongs to Mr Karmal's Parcham faction of the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) was removed because he had purged a number of Khalq faction supporters in the Afghan Army.

In an apparent denial, Kabul radio last night said Lt Gen Gol Aqa attended a meeting of Waziri tribesmen with Mr Karmal.

In its Pashto language news bulletin monitored in New Delhi and Islamabad, the radio implicitly denied the report by specifically mentioning the general's presence at the official meeting.

But the diplomats here insisted that the general had been dismissed and named the official who succeeded him.

The diplomats cited unconfirmed reports circulating in the Afghan capital of an impending purge of ministers and senior government officials.

Interior Minister Sayyed Mohammad Golabzoy had not been seen in his office for about a week, the diplomats said.

They said a new conscription drive was in full swing in Kabul with Afghan Army units armed with the recently amended conscription laws rounding up people.

Many shopkeepers fearing drafting had either joined the ranks of the insurgents or fled to the countryside, the diplomats said.

MUJAHIDIN KILL 70 SOVIET, AFGHAN SOLDIERS

GF101254 Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 7 Aug 82 p 1

[Text] Kabul, 6 Aug (Radio Report) -- Skirmishes between the mujahidin and Karmal forces continued in several parts of Afghanistan. Radio Kabul has admitted that there have been more clashes in Herat and Balkh Provinces.

According to Radio Tehran, the mujahidin killed 70 Soviet and Kramal soldiers and destroyed 14 tanks in Lowgar. According to the Agency Afghan Press (AAP) the Afghan mujahidin in two separate operations captured 26 army soldiers and 22 militiamen from the Karmal forces.

The freedom fighters at a point (Qazi Darreh) 3 km from Orgun airfield made these army and militiamen surrender to the mujahidin. The mujahidin, receiving information that these soldiers were searching for them, let the Karmal soldiers approach close to their hideout and then surrounded them. Over loudspeakers they asked the soldiers to surrender. Four officers leading the Karmal soldiers were executed on the spot after they tried to rally their troops for resistance.

Of the Karmal troops, 26 soldiers surrendered willingly, while another 20 escaped. The other 22 Karmal militiamen, belonging to Wazir tribes, were captured when they were moving from Orgun to the Wazir territory. After they were surrounded, they handed their documents, arms and money over to the mujahidin.

REPORTS ON VOLUNTEERS FOR MILITARY SERVICE CITED

LD061944 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 6 Aug 82

[Text] A number of the aware and patriotic youth of the capital and surroundings of Konarha Province yesterday submitted their names for sacred military service, following the announcement by the DRA Council of Ministers, and have left for sarandoy units in Konarha Province.

According to the BAKHTAR correspondent reporting from Asadabad city, prior to departure these youths chanted slogans and pledged their party and the revolutionary government that they will not lay down their weapons until the last remnants of the counterrevolutionaries are eliminated. They pledged that they will fight with courage and without fear against the counterrevolutionaries -- these traitors to the homeland, the people and the revolution.

According to another report, a large number of the aware and patriotic youth of Balkh Province, in accordance with the DRA Council of Ministers announcement, have come during the last 2 days to the military commissariat of Balkh Province and submitted their names for sacred military service in the spirit of patriotism.

The BAKHTAR correspondent, quoting the military commissariat of Balkh Province, reports that during the last 4 months a total of 4,538 aware and patriotic youths of Balkh Province have submitted their names to the military commissariat of this province and have been sent to the units and companies of the armed forces.

SOMALI ENVOY MEETS ERSHAD; IRAQI ENVOY DEPARTS

BK100557 Dacca Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 10 Aug 82

[Text] The Somali president's special envoy (Abul Issak Ahmed) called on Chief Martial Law Administrator [CMLA] Lt Gen H.M. Ershad in Dacca yesterday evening. He delivered a letter from President Siad Barre to the CMLA. During the meeting with the CMLA, the special envoy apprised him of the current serious situation forced by armed attack on Somali.

The special envoy was informed that Bangladesh was deeply concerned at the recurrent acts of hostility against the Muslim country, and as a fellow member of the Organization of Islamic Conference and Nonaligned Movement, Bangladesh has always adopted a consistent stand of upholding the cause of maintenance of territorial integrity. The CMLA expressed his sincere sympathy at the sufferings caused to the fraternal people of Somalia. He conveyed best wishes to the Somali president and assured him all possible assistance to the Somali brethren. The special envoy expressed his deep gratitude at the warm appreciation of the Somali position by the Bangladesh Government.

Meanwhile, Hasan 'Ali, the special envoy of the Iraqi president left Dacca yesterday after a brief visit during which he handed over a message of President Saddam Husayn to the CMLA, Lt Gen H.M. Ershad, concerning the seventh nonaligned summit due to be held in Baghdad next month.

Before his departure, 'Ali said in a statement that his visit to Bangladesh was in consonance with the friendly relations existing between the two countries. The Iraqi envoy said during his meeting with the CMLA and Foreign Minister A.R. Shamsul Doha, he had appealed to the Bangladesh Government to make seventh nonaligned summit a success and to maintain the unity of the movement.

PRC FOREIGN TRADE DELEGATION ARRIVES 8 AUGUST

BK090431 Dacca Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Text] A seven-member trade delegation from China arrived in Dacca last night.

Talking to newsmen at the airport, leader of the delegations and trade, said China and Bangladesh have achieved satisfactory development on economic and social (?relations). During its 4-day visit, the delegation will sign a trade protocol and visit Ghorashal fertiliser factory.

TRIAL OF TWO FORMER MINISTERS, OTHERS BEGINS

BK061344 Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 29 Jul 82 p 12

[Excerpt] The five-member Special Martial Law Tribunal No. 11 on Tuesday [27 July] began trial of former Minister in Charge of Civil Aviation and Tourism Mr. K.M. Obaidur Rahman, former Minister for Establishment Mr. Majedul Haq and General Manager (Planning) Bangladesh Biman and Member Secretary Biman's Fleet Planning Committee Afsar Ali on charges of corruption and abuse of official position under Regulation MLR II of the Martial Law Regulation No. 1 of 1982 and of Mr. Abdul Aziz Mohammad Bhai under MLR 11/9 of Martial Law Regulation No. 1 of 1982.

Headed by Colonel A.B.N. Elias, the tribunal comprises Commander Mohammad Abdul Majid; Wing Commander T.A.M. Ashraful Islam; Mr. Mohammad Hamidul Haque, magistrate first class; and Mr. Khorshed Alam Majumder, additional district and sessions judge.

All the accused persons were produced before the tribunal and the chairman read out charges against them. They pleaded not guilty.

GANDHI RECEIVES MESSAGES FROM CASTRO, HUSAYN

BK091625 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Text] India today expressed its earnest desire to preserve the unity and solidarity of the Nonaligned Movement against the background of differing proposals for a meeting of plenipotentiaries at foreign ministers level to discuss the practicability of holding the seventh summit in Baghdad in September as scheduled. The Cuban proposal to hold a meeting in Havana was explained today to the prime minister and to the external affairs minister yesterday when Cuban Vice Foreign Minister Torras met them separately. Torras also handed over a letter from Cuban President Fidel Castro to Mrs Gandhi. On the other hand, Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi met Mrs Gandhi and Narasimha Rao and handed over a message from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to Mrs Gandhi. He conveyed to them the topmost priority which Iraq attaches at this juncture to securing a solution to the present problems in the movement. It may be recalled here that the Iraqi foreign minister on his arrival yesterday in New Delhi had ruled out the need to hold a foreign ministers level meeting in Havana. Iraq had proposed that the foreign ministers will meet in Baghdad on 2d of next month to decide the venue of the summit.

The spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry, briefing newsmen, said that there will now be further informal consultations amongst the nonaligned countries to find a solution to the present difficulties. Asked whether India could hold the summit, the spokesman said the question is completely hypothetical. The spokesman further said that the Consultative Committee of Members of Parliament attached to the ministry, which met today, also took into account the altered circumstances and material changes in the situation since the 1979 summit decided that the 7th summit will be held in Baghdad. They felt that the unity of the movement should be preserved through harmonization, procedures and practices. The members stressed that the credibility of the movement must be maintained.

RAFSANJANI ARRIVES, SPEAKS ON BAGHDAD MEETING

BK101252 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 10 Aug 82

[Text] A high-level Iranian delegation arrived in New Delhi this afternoon on a 7-day visit. It is led by the president of the Islamic Consultative Assembly of Iran, Hashemi-Rafsanjani. This delegation was received by Speaker of the Lok Sabha Balram Jakhar and Minister of External Affairs Narasimha Rao.

Replying to questions by newsmen, Rafsanjani said Iran is not at all in favor of holding the nonaligned foreign ministers meet in Baghdad to decide the venue for the seventh nonaligned summit. If it is held Iran will not participate.

COMMENTATOR VIEWS ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH U.S.

BK091600 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1340 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Commentary by Arvind Bhandari, COMMERCE WEEKLY bureau chief: "India-U.S. Economic Cooperation"]

[Text] Since politics and economics have become increasingly intertwined because of the complexity of the modern-day diplomacy, much interest attaches to how far Mrs Gandhi's just-concluded American tour will pave the way for closer economic interaction between the United States and India.

The portents are encouraging. In view of India's current emphasis on technological upgradation and considering the United States pre-eminent position as a reservoir of technology, quite appropriately the decision has been taken to set up a panel of scientists and technologists drawn from both the countries to determine priority areas of collaboration. In her address to the American Association for Advancement of Science in Washington on 31 July, Mrs Gandhi broadly identified those areas as food production, improvement of environment, health and conservation of energy.

The prime minister also invited American investors to India and took the opportunity to explain the Indian policy on foreign investment. India wants foreign investment in areas of high technology and export. Foreigners can invest in other areas also, but they must be content with minority equity participation. This is what the foreign exchange regulation act is all about.

In other words, India is not opposed to private foreign investment but only insistent that it should be within the framework of the country's requirements. It is worth pointing out that those American companies which had come forward to operate within the parameters of Indian regulations have done well because of the largeness of the Indian market and comparatively inexpensive labor. A study by the Indian, American Chambers of Commerce shows that the 20 companies having American financial participation collectively enlarged their assets at an annual rate of 12 percent between 1975 and 1979. The annual growth rate for their turnover and profit after tax were 15 percent and 18 percent, respectively. In addition there are 105 companies operating with American licensing arrangements which means only technological collaboration. Thus, the total number of India-U.S. collaborations comes to 125.

Another important aspect of Mrs Gandhi's American tour is that she utilized the occasion to personally impress upon President Reagan and World Bank President A.W. Claussen the socioeconomic and humanitarian rationale of not only not reducing but actually enlarging soft-term concessional multilateral aid to developing countries. In the case of India, Mrs Gandhi said reduction of the aid would adversely affect vital programs designed to raise the standards of living of a large mass of population. The arguments put forward by the Indian prime minister would very well have been the arguments on behalf of the Third World.

While Mrs Gandhi was heard with attention and seriousness, how much effect her advocacy will have for India in particular and the developing world in general remains to be seen. Officials who accompanied the prime minister believe that the soft-term aid to India might be marginally increased in the current year compared to last year. As for the gigantic IMF loans secured by India, Mrs Gandhi received an assurance from the Reagan administration that when the third installment comes up, the United States would support it. In the case of the first two installments, the American attitude had ranged between neutrality and mild opposition. But now there are prospects of the Indian exports to the United States improving.

During Mrs Gandhi's visit, American officials spoke about the two countries cooperating within GATT. The reference was obviously to the settlement of a dispute between the two countries over duties. Last year the United States suddenly imposed countervailling duties on various Indian export items without applying the injury test, with the result that India was constrained to make a complaint to GATT. Now the United States has accepted India's position as a signatory to the Tokyo Round of the GATT agreement and agreed to apply the test. This should auger well for Indian exports because hardly any Indian item injures an American indigenous industry.

INDIA-USSR SPACE FLIGHT TO BE KEPT 'SECRET'

BK091214 New Delhi PATRIOT in English 2 Aug 82 p 1

[Text] New Delhi, Aug 1 (UNI) -- A panel comprising at least eight space pilots from the Indian Air Force has been formed for the joint India-Soviet space flight which is likely to blast off in the latter half of 1984, according to a high-ranking defense source. The pilots chosen for the proposed space journey will undergo gruelling medical tests in India. Later, they will be taken to the Soviet Union for further medical scrutiny.

After the final tests, one Indian cosmonaut will be selected to undertake the space flight and another will be stand-by. The Indian pilots, along with their Soviet counterparts, will be subject to a period of intense space stimulation program at stellar town on the outskirts of Moscow and then flown to the Soviet cosmodrome at Baykonur, located in Kazakhstan steppe.

CHARAN SINGH REMOVED FROM LOK DAL PRESIDENCY

BK091327 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Text] The split in the Lok Dal was formalized today with a number of party leaders removing Charan Singh from the presidentship. They installed Karpuri Thakur in his place. This was done at a joint meeting attended by some members of the Lok Dal parliamentary board, its national executive, state office bearers and leaders of state legislature parties. Devi Lal, whose expulsion from the party by Charan Singh touched off the crisis, inaugurated the meeting. Karpuri Thakur presided.

EXTENSION OF PRESIDENT'S RULE IN ASSAM APPROVED

BK100504 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 10 Aug 82

[Text] The tripartite negotiations to find a solution to the foreign national issue in Assam will be resumed on the 25th of this month. This was stated by Home Minister Venkataraman in the Rajya Sabha yesterday. He was replying to a debate on a statutory resolution approving the extension of president's rule in Assam by another 6 months. The house later adopted the resolution. The home minister said the main problem is to determine who is a foreigner. Their detection comes later. A solution to this problem can be found only through a mutual give and take spirit and it cannot be solved strictly on the basis of legal positions.

Venkataraman assured the people of Assam that the government will stand by their aspirations and will preserve their identity and cultural life. Evictions from government land have been stepped up to create a suitable climate for negotiation. He said the government draft prepared at the meeting held on the 23d of August last year will be the basis of resumed discussions. He also said that the government is very keen to have elections in the state before March next.

During the discussions, members made a strong plea for an early solution to the foreign nationals issue. They said if no solution is found at the coming negotiations, the government should come forward with its own formula. They appealed to the Assam agitation leaders to cooperate with the government to solve the issue.

The house passed another statutory resolution for extension of essential services maintenance act to cover some services in Assam. The budget demands of the state for the current year were also approved. The minister of state for finance, Sisodia, said budget allocations for almost all the sectors of Assam have been increased. Earlier, the house rejected a motion moved by C.S. Jha, Janata, and some other opposition members, disapproving the extension of president's rule in the state.

SRI LANKA

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS TO BE HELD IN 2-3 MONTHS

BK091128 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Text] The people of Sri Lanka will be called upon in the course of the next 2 or 3 months to elect the next president of the republic. This was disclosed by Prime Minister Premadasa when he addressed a public meeting in (Desinarya) electorate yesterday.

Premadasa said the candidate for the United National Party would be President J.R. Jayewardene. Urging the reelection of the president, Premadasa said that the people could assure for themselves continued peace and prosperity if the government was given a mandate to pursue for a further period the policies it had implemented over the past 5 years.

The prime minister said that the people have to decide for themselves whether they wish to have the prosperity that flowed from the policies enunciated by the present government or whether they desired a return to the pre-1977 era. The progressive and practical policies of the present government had been recognized internationally and that was why the current development program had attracted so much assistance from abroad. Premadasa added that several thousand people had secured employment both in Sri Lanka and abroad since the present government assumed office. A large number of people had in the same period been given titles to state land.

JAYEWARDENE, IRAQI ENVOY DISCUSS SUMMIT VENUE

BK101332 Hong Kong AFP in English 1304 GMT 10 Aug 82

[Text] Colombo, Aug 10 (AFP) -- Iraq will not insist on hosting next month's non-aligned summit in Baghdad if the movement decides on alternative arrangements, Iraq's special envoy told the Sri Lankan president today.

Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's special envoy, 'Abd al-Malik al-Yasin, a deputy foreign minister, told President Junius Jayewardene that Iraq had made this decision "in the interests of non-aligned unity", Foreign Ministry sources said here.

The Iraqi enovy handed President Jayewardene a letter from the Iraqi president, but repeated Iraq's demand that any decision must be taken by the non-aligned foreign ministers at the pre-summit meeting in Baghdad scheduled for 2nd and 3rd September.

President Jayewardene is understood to have agreed with this. Meanwhile diplomatic sources here said that the new flexibility in the Iraqi position indicated that the Baghdad summit scheduled for early September would not come off.

The sources said that the summit would most probably be postponed and probably held in New Delhi early next year.

FOREIGN MINISTER HAMEED LEAVES FOR VIENNA

BK081057 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 8 Aug 82

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Shahul Hameed left for Vienna last night leading a five-member delegation to the second United Nations conference on the peaceful uses of outer space. The conference will commence on Monday the 9th and will be continued till the 20th of this month.

VELAYATI ON EFFORTS TO CHANGE SUMMIT VENUE

LD102046 Tehran IRNA in English 2010 GMT 10 Aug 82

[Text] Tehran, Aug 10, IRNA -- The principal reason which has caused uncertainty over the fate of the non-aligned summit in Baghdad has been the victories of the Islamic forces in the battlefields of the Iraqi imposed war, said Foreign Minister Velayati in an interview published in the Persian daily ETTELA'AT today. He said on the other hand political maneuvres by the Iranian Foreign Ministry had also been a contributing factor. Delegations were sent to African countries which held about fifty percent of the seats in the Nonaligned Movement, influential members of the movement who had a representative in Tehran were called upon and briefed on the matter. The Iranian envoy at the U.N. had made widespread contacts with non-aligned members in an effort to persuade the non-aligned concerning the inappropriateness of the venue of the summit conference. And the third reason was threats made by Iraqi Muslim mujahidin, he added.

The Iranian foreign minister added that Baghdad might as well have been crossed off as host of the summit when the non-aligned ministers met in New Delhi in Feb. of 1981. He said one of the items on the agenda at that meeting was in connection with the summit in Baghdad and the Islamic Republic could have begun its protest then, but it did not. The lack of experience of the Iranian foreign affairs officials at that time, Velayati said, cost Iran a loss of a chance to change the summit venue.

Iran began to assert its demand more seriously a few months ago Velayati said. "Although we did not have many friends among the non-aligned", he said, "...we will make efforts in the direction which we believe is right and if the venue of the conference is changed, so much the better, and if not we shall have acted upon our religious and legal duty" all at the same time.

Commenting on efforts by peace missions Velayati said that the missions had not been all together unsuccessful and it was not fair to say that the efforts of these delegations had not borne any results. He said that the most important result of their efforts was that they had been acquainted with the conditions of the Islamic Republic and the logic behind those conditions for ending the Iraqi imposed war. He said the peace missions had to be presented with proofs of the crimes of the Iraqi regime against Iran as well as clearly informed of Iran's just demands from the Iraqis. However, he added, "we have always welcomed peace, but a dignified and just peace. Peace is important for us and we prefer it to war. But we put by far the highest premium on our revolution and its permanence."

RAFSANJANI LEADS DELEGATION TO INDIA 10 AUGUST

LD101326 Tehran IRNA in English 1032 GMT 10 Aug 82

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 10 (IRNA) -- Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani left Tehran this morning for New Delhi on an official six-day state visit.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, who was heading a delegation of parliamentary, finance and religious officials, was invited by the speaker of the Indian Parliament, Mr. Balram Jakhar. In this trip, Mr. Rafsanjani is accompanied by Mines and Metals Minister Hoseyn Musavian, Majlis representatives Hasan Rohani, Morteza Katirai and Manuchehr Motaki, Iran's atomic energy organisation head Reza Amrollahi, Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Kazempur-Ardabili, Deputy Commerce Minister Hedayatzadeh, Ayatollah Montazeri's representative in India Hojjat ol-Eslam Golesorkhi, and the Indian ambassador to Tehran, Akbar Mirza Khaleeli.

The Iranian delegation will conduct discussions with the Indian officials concerning the development of bilateral relations, the positions of the Islamic Republic on world problems such as the Zionist invasion of Lebanon and the changing of the Non-aligned Movement conference venue from Baghdad.

This is the third official visit of Hashemi-Rafsanjani since he was elected to his post as Majlis speaker. His first visit was to Syria, Libya, Algeria, and Lebanon in 1980 and his second was to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Malaysia in 1981. This trip is the most important Iranian delegation travelling to India since the culmination of the Islamic revolution of Iran.

Prior to leaving the capital the speaker voiced optimism for the success and fruitfulness of his mission in light of the Indian Government's anti-imperialist positions and its membership of the Non-aligned Movement.

Speaking on the Baghdad change of venue the speaker said Iran insisted on the change of the Baghdad venue and that Iran would welcome it if the conference was to be held in India, keeping in mind India's history in holding these summits.

Responding to the question whether problems relating to the Iraqi imposed war on Iran would be brought up in India, Rafsanjani said Iran's policy has always been against discussing the war abroad.

The speaker of the Majlis and his delegation were seen off at Mehrabad Airport by Foreign Minister Velayati and some other officials as well as some of the personnel of the Indian Embassy in Tehran.

SOVIET ENVOY DISCUSSES RELATIONS WITH KHAMENE'I

LD101756 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Aug 82

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, the new USSR ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mr Boldyrev, met with President Khamene'i this morning and presented his credentials. During this meeting, the new USSR ambassador made some remarks conveying greetings from the leaders of his country to Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, to the president and to the Iranian nation. Declaring readiness to continue and expand the good neighborly relations between the two countries and mutual respect for each other's sovereignty, the ambassador said: The Soviet Union is firmly determined to take all the appropriate steps in the future to strengthen its friendly relations and good neighborliness with the Islamic Republic of Iran. He added: We believe there are good possibilities for the expansion of cooperation between the two countries.

The new USSR ambassador then presented his credentials to the president. Afterwards, Mr Khamene'i made some remarks on the expansion of the most healthy relations between the two countries.

JOINT STAFF COMMANDER COMMENTS ON WAR MATERIEL

GF101442 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 31 Jul 82 p 9

["Exclusive" interview with Commander of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran Brigadier General Zahirnezhad, by IRNA correspondent on 29 July]

[Excerpts] The commander of the Joint Staff, in reference to the adverse imperialist propaganda concerning a weakening of the forces of Islam and a shortage of equipment after 22 months of war, said: War materiel consists of equipment and manpower. The manpower is the most important of the war materiel because it is the man who has to use the equipment.

It is true that we are under an economic embargo and it is true that the supercriminal oppressors support Saddam, the oppressor. However, we have a weapon that no superpower can supply to our Ba'thist enemy, and that is the zealous combatants whose sacrifice and martyrdom seeking has brought them praise from every direction.

Brigadier General Zahirnezhad added: One of our greatest advantages is the 42,000 Iraqi POW's we have captured, which is a calamity for the Iraqi Army, which has to conscript soldiers from a 12-million-strong nation. The expansion of this situation will eventually bring the Ba'thist army to its knees. With one calculation we can conclude that the presence of 42,000 Iraqi POW's in Iran is like Iraq having taken around 160 to 170 thousand Iranians as POW's. Such a calculation can show you the importance of 42,000 POW's to the Iraqi Army.

He added: We only fight with the weapons we produce ourselves and we will destroy the army of Saddam. Referring to the Ramadan Operation and the Iranian forces' entry into Iraq, he said: Following the breakdown of the siege of Abadan, I personally gave a general plan concerning the continuation of war inside Iraq to the Supreme Defense Council 20 months ago. This, of course, was not the operational plan. It was approved there and given to the relevant forces. I completely believe that if the world's oppressors and criminals are not dealt with the right way, the world will be completely in chaos. In my opinion, peace with Saddam is treachery and our defense should continue until the complete annihilation of the infidel Saddam.

COMMANDER ANNOUNCES NEW MILITARY HEADQUARTERS

LD101244 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 10 Aug 82

[Excerpts] According to the Central News Unit, Colonel Sayyad Shirazi, commander of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, made a speech to the combatants of Islam in the Urumiyeh garrison this morning. During this speech, Colonel Sayyad Shirazi announced the creation of the Operation "Hamzeh, lord of the martyrs" [name of prophet Mohammad's uncle] central headquarters, in the northwestern part of the country, which will be the center for joint operations of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps for eradicating remnants of the counterrevolutionaries in the West Azarbayjan and Kordestan Provinces.

The commander of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, said that, before taking any action, this headquarters first and foremost provides an opportunity for the hireling domestic elements to return to the embrace of Islam. Afterwards, if they refuse to surrender, this headquarters will take action, using the latest experiences to eradicate them.

In another part of his remarks, the commander of the ground forces, emphasizing the necessity to continue the way against the Iraqi Ba'thist-Zionist mercenaries, referred to the Lebanon problem as a plot hatched by the blasphemous Saddam and his master, America, in order to divert the attention of the combative nation of Iran from the war of truth against falsehood. He said that, from the outset of this problem, we intended to rush to Syria by air in order to fight in Lebanon. But, thank God, our dear and vigilant imam pointed out to us that we should deal with that important problem after settling the issue of Saddam and should not let Saddam save himself in these circumstances.

Referring to the recent victorious operations of the self-sacrificing combatants of Islam on the battlefronts of truth against falsehood, Colonel Sayyad Shirazi analyzed the latest battle situation on these fronts and said that today we have reached the point where the filthy Saddam wishes that he would forego his punishment.

Colonel Shirazi added that, during the Ramadan Operation, more than 150 tanks and personnel carriers were taken as booty, more than 5,000 Saddamist mercenaries were killed and over 150 square km of enemy territory were captured by the combatants of Islam. And now the combatants of Islam on the western and southern fronts are prepared to destroy the last remains of the Saddamist infidels.

REPORTS ON FIGHTING IN W. AZARBAYJAN, KORDESTAN

Kurdish Unrest

GF102016 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 10 Aug 82

[Text] The widespread attack by Kurdish strugglers against Khomeyni's guards in Kordestan and West Azarbayjan Provinces [words indistinct] and epics by the Kurdish strugglers in recent days [words indistinct]. Colonel Sayyad Shirazi, the commander of Khomeyni's ground forces, who is responsible for the deaths of 27,000 Iranian youths in the Ramadan Operation, (?has been forced to) establish a base called "Hamzeh, lord of the martyrs" in Reza'iyeh. Sayyad Shirazi said: This is the last step for crushing the people of Kordestan. He added that garrison guards, armed forces personnel, Mobilization, gendarmerie, police and committee personnel participate in Hamzeh base in Reza'iyeh.

We should remind you that during the past 2 years, the Kurdish strugglers have dealt heavy blows against Khomeyni's guards and the majority of Kurdish areas in Kordestan and West Azarbayjan are under the control of Kurdish peshmerga.

Contrary to the claims of Khomeyni's regime, the armed forces personnel have avoided participation in operations to crush their brother Iranian Kurds, and many of those who were forced to participate in operations against their Kurdish brothers immediately joined the Kurdish struggling forces.

At present, thousands of the officers and NCO's of the army, police and gendarmerie are cooperating with the struggling forces in areas controlled by them. The Kurdish strugglers have sworn that they will continue their struggle until the overthrow of the illegal Khomeyni regime and the cleansing of their region of the filth of the presence of the guards. The heavy blows dealt against the guards by the Kurdish Muslim peshmerga have forced Sayyad Shirazi to establish the Hamzeh base in Reza'iyeh.

We suggest to the Muslim Kurdish strugglers and the people of Kordestan, who are bravely standing up to Khomeyni's mercenaries, that they continue their resistance against such enemies of Iran as Sayyad Shirazi and his mercenary guards and [words indistinct] that Khomeyni's mercenaries will not be able to stand up to the Kurdish fighters, as has been the case in the past.

Our correspondent in Kordestan has also reported that in an attack by Kurdish peshmerga against [names indistinct] and Mahabad bases, dozens of guards were killed and a large number wounded. In these clashes 85 guards were captured by the Kurdish fighters.

The armed fighters establish their bases in areas around cities and hard-to-cross mountains in order to stop any killing of innocent people. They use such bases to attack the bases and gathering places of the guards. The all-out attack by the armed strugglers will begin in the fall. The people of Kordestan, and even the villagers, cooperate with the armed fighters and [words indistinct] many victories for the Kurdish fighters.

Our latest reports indicate that the Kurdish fighters have intensified their attacks against the guards in all areas of Kordestan and especially in Piranshahr, Mahabad, [name indistinct] and Baneh, as well as in areas in West Azarbayjan.

Crusade Headquarters Attacked

LD061940 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Aug 82

[Excerpts] IRNA reports: The reconstruction crusade's headquarters in Piranshahr was attacked early yesterday by armed elements of the outlawed [Kurdish] Democratic Party which is considered the old enemy of the Muslim and oppressed people of Kordestan. The counter-revolutionaries set fire to the entire building [words indistinct] and stole some of the headquarters' furniture and equipment.

According to this report, before their flight the counterrevolutionaries planted several (?bombs) of the roads to be used by the forces of Islam, but they were discovered and defused in time.

Divandarreh Cleared of Rebels

LD071746 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Aug 82

[Excerpts] According to the Central News Unit, a spokesman for the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps said that during operations carried out by forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the Cendarmerie of the Islamic Republic and the Kurdish peshmerga, the valiants of Islam succeeded in clearing armed insurgents from areas to the west, northwest and southwest of Divandarreh.

Also cleared by the forces of Islam is the region of [word indistinct], regarded as one of the important bases of the counterrevolutionaries.

Guards Report Successes

LD081802 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Aug 82

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report citing the Public Relations Office of the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the corpsmen, the army and Muslim tribes carried out a combined operation in the villages of (Mazeleh), (Omid), (Golyar), (Do Seyyed) and (Khatulasti), on the Mahabad-Sar Dasht axis. Islam's courageous combatants were able to purge the village of (Golyar) of the filthy presence of counterrevolutionaries and to completely destroy their bases in the villages of (Mazeleh), (Do Seyyed) and (Omidi).

According to the report, a number of mercenary elements associated with international arrogance were killed or wounded and the mighty defenders of Islam succeeded in taking 21 of these armed duped American lackeys prisoner.

BOMB DISCOVERED CLOSE TO TEHRAN PRAYER SITE

GF101952 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 31 Jul 82 p 15

[Text] ETTELA'AT news service: The awareness of the Police Department personnel resulted in the discovery of 70 kg of explosives planted in a car near the site of Komeyl prayers.

According to our reporter, the patrol unit of the police became suspicious of a white landrover parked in Imam Khomeyni Square at 0730 on 29 July 1982. Following some investigation, it became evident that the car had been reported stolen, and further investigation revealed that there were explosives inside. These facts were immediately transmitted by officers to the bomb neutralization unit by radio, and moments later the unit arrived on the scene. Their investigation resulted in the discovery of 70 kg of plastic explosives hidden in the back wheel wells of the car.

One person was arrested in the meantime and the car and the explosives were taken to police headquarters.

Our correspondent adds: The car was parked at a location used for parking by many vehicles bringing people who participate in the Komeyi prayers every week. Had it exploded, it would have caused a great calamity. However, the help of the Almighty and the awareness of the officers foiled the inauspicious plot of the traitorous U.S. hypocrites. Investigation into the case continues.

FORMER GOVERNOR ARRESTED WHILE FLEEING COUNTRY

LD081930 Tehran IRNA in English 1630 GMT 8 Aug 82

[Text] Tehran, Aug 8, IRNA -- Taher Ahmadzadeh, one-time governor general of Khorasan Province (during the Provisional Government) and an agent of the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization was arrested and handed over to judicial officials.

An announcement issued in Tehran by the prosecutor of the Islamic revolution of the Central Province, today said that Ahmadzadeh had been sought after for some time and that he was arrested while he was attempting to flee the country, but it did not mention the date on which the arrest had been made, nor where he had been arrested. The announcement added he had disguised himself and was carrying a false identity card and passport at the time of his arrest and he was to join the so-called National Resistance Council in Paris.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE NO 1,012

LD101740 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Aug 82

[Communique No 1,012 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. During operations yesterday in the Hajj 'Umran region, decisive and crushing blows were dealt to the agents of the mercenary Saddam's army.

At 1730 on 9 August 1982, the Ba'thist enemy planned to land forces in the Rayat and Hajj 'Umran region but the powerful artillery of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran opened intense fire and prevented these operations, so much so that in the very first hours the enemy was forced to flee after suffering losses and casualties.

Some of the losses inflicted on the Saddamist forces were as follows: 10 light and heavy vehicles and the enemy command post in Hajj 'Umran were destroyed together with several military buildings in the same region; 2 engineering vehicles, 1 ammunition truck, 1 mortar and 2 vehicles carrying 106-mm rifles together with their ammunition and personnel, were destroyed; an ammunition dump in the enemy's assembly region was set on fire; more than 50 Saddamists were killed and a great many of them were wounded. During these operations, Islam's forces fortunately suffered no losses or casualties.

In other operational zones in the western parts of the country sporadic exchanges of fire took place; the intensity of fire in the vicinity of Mehran was greater than elsewhere. On the country's western fronts our combatants, using heavy-weapon fire, destroyed two enemy tanks and a number of trenches together with their personnel and damaged several vehicles. Meanwhile, defusing minefields on various roads in the western regions still continues.

In the operational zones in the southern parts of the country our forces opened fire and silenced enemy fire; artillery fire by our forces prevented enemy movements and the activities of their engineering equipment. During these operations our forces destroyed several enemy vehicles and one ammunition dump.

Yesterday the heroic combatants of the Islamic Republic's Navy and Gendarmerie opened fire on enemy positions on the opposite bank of the Arvand Rud, setting on fire and destroying two assembly points, several light and heavy weapons, four observation posts and two bunkers of the Iraqi servicemen.

Yesterday Saddam's dastardly army once again opened fire on Abadan's residential areas and as a result five houses were destroyed and two of our compatriots were wounded.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

IRAQI PILOT BOMBS BAGHDAD SUBURB, SHOT DOWN

LD101834 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Aug 82

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, antiaircraft batteries in Baghdad were put into action last week although no air raid sirens had sounded. The statement issued following this incident claimed that air defense units had opened fire after noticing an Iraqi aircraft flying across prohibited zones.

According to a report we have received, the antiaircraft batteries shot down an Iraqi aircraft and killed its pilot. The report says: The pilot, who was a supporter of Iraq's Islamic revolution, took to the air after refusing to obey military orders. Before his aircraft was destroyed he succeeded in dropping several bombs in the Abu Ghurayb region near Baghdad.

Moreover, according to a reliable report, last Tuesday the pedestrian walkway below (Al-Hurriyah) Square in the (Bab ash-Sharqi) District of Baghdad was rocked by an explosion.

DEPUTIES DEMAND CENSURE OF HOUSING MINISTER

LD101130 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 10 Aug 82

[Text] The Islamic Consultative Assembly held an open session this morning under Deputy Speaker Mohammad Yazdi. [passage indistinct]

At the conclusion of today's meeting a letter signed by 12 Majlis deputies demanding the censure of the minister of housing and urban development was read. The next meeting of the Majlis is to be held on Thursday, the day after tomorrow.

NVOI URGES BETTER TIES WITH FRIENDLY COUNTRIES

TA102051 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 10 Aug 82

[Unattributed commentary: "The Government's Positive Measures in Respect to Further Consolidating the Imam's Line"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: The visit to our friendly and neighboring country, India, by a high-ranking Iranian delegation led by Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Islamic Majlis, and following that the establishment of diplomatic relations with revolutionary Cuba and the appointment of the ambassador of the Islamic Republic to Cuba are considered positive measures in the field of foreign policy. Predicting the results of these measures is entirely possible even now. The progress of our homeland's economy toward maintaining independence, the further consolidation of the imam's anti-imperialist line, and the further strengthening of the positions of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the international arena are the [word indistinct] outcome of these measures.

According to the acknowledgement of even the foes of the Islamic Republic of Iran, so far our revolutionary homeland has adopted a decisive anti-American and anti-imperialist stance.

For this reason, from the outset all the measures of the enemies and opponents of the Islamic Republic, including the ignorant friends of the revolution, the pseudoclergy and the court preachers were and are aimed at undermining this line and restoring revolutionary Iran to the embrace of the great Satan.

The elements and agents of world-devouring America, such as the Qotbzadehs, the Amir-Entezams, the Yazdis, the Bani-Sadrs and others, from the very first day of the revolution's victory strived with all their might to prevent the expansion of relations between liberated and anti-imperialist Iran with anti-imperialist countries. These gentlemen and their followers and associates prevented as much as they could the establishment of friendly relations between our homeland and member countries of the steadfastness front, neutral and truly anti-imperialist countries such as India, and socialist states such as Cuba. In order to promote this treacherous goal, these individuals resorted to every condemned and disagreeable act from plot to provocation, forgery, ploys and ruses. Unfortunately, they succeeded to some extent in promoting their aims. However, the alertness of the ever-on-the-scene people on the one hand, and the decisiveness of Imam Khomeyni and his committed companions in the Islamic government on the other have so far many times caused and is causing the defeat of the implementors of this imperialist line.

Currently in our revolutionary homeland and simultaneously with the efforts of the clear-sighted officials aimed at consolidating the positions of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the international scene, we are witnessing the tricks, ruses and the plots of the enemies and opponents of the revolution, the ignorant superficial and monopolist friends, the court preachers and the pseudoclergy against all the positive measures of the Islamic Republic of Iran. This wide spectrum of the enemies and opponents and the ignorant friends of the revolution everywhere, make wide use in particular, of sticking the communist label on the leaders of the revolution and the committed government figures of the revolution. As in a certain era when the opponents of true and revolutionary Islam even used to say about 'Ali 'ibn Abu Taleb that 'Ali does not pray, they portray Imam Khomeyni and his committed companions as opposed to Islam, of course the Islam of Mo'avieh and Abu Sofian.

The sincere followers of the imam's popular and anti-imperialist line and the true forces of the revolution immensely welcome the measures of the Islamic Republic of Iran in establishing diplomatic relations with anti-American Cuba and the visit of the high-ranking government delegation led by Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani to India. Such measures are always supported by the revolutionary forces, both religious and nonreligious.

At the same time, the revolutionary forces cannot hide their deep concern about some harmful developments, particularly about the bitter reality of the distortion of the slogan "Neither East nor West" by the court preachers and the pseudoclergy, the superficials and the monopolists and some of the fanatic government figures, and its transformation into the slogan of "Not Eastern but Western." Particularly because the outcome of the activity of these so-called friends of the revolution is nothing more than carrying out the famous directive of the Zionist Brzezinski and Carter to the effect that if you are able to strain Iran-Soviet relations you will have succeeded in dealing hard blows to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

It is a fact that for a long time now the slogan of "Neither East nor West" has been actually employed by some of the fanatic superficial government figures and authorities in line with the demands of world-devouring America and its Iranian agents and lackeys. By raising this slogan and involving socialist countries, especially the Soviet Union, and other anti-imperialist states — without any connection whatsoever — these individuals while negating the great Satan and diverting public opinion from this sworn enemy of the revolution create a hostile climate against the true friends of the Iranian revolution, and create obstacles on the path of the expansion of Iran's relations with truly anti-imperialist countries and the countries that are the friends and the supporters of the Islamic Republic of Iran. By the utmost expansion of relations with countries that are the friends and supporters of the Islamic Republic of Iran and with truly anti-imperialist countries, the plan of the implementors of the slogan "Not East but West" must be foiled.

NVOI: PEOPLE DEMAND BETTER RELATIONS WITH DRA

TA091013 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 7 August carried a commentary, entitled "The People Are Defending the Democratic Government of Afghanistan," which stated that, despite the difficulties caused by the undeclared war of the U.S. imperialists, the leaders of Beijing and the region's reactionary regimes against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, the democratic government of this liberated country is taking the necessary measures toward improving the people's living standard and building a free society devoid of exploitation.

All these popular and Islamic measures by the Afghan Government have led to the thwarting of the satanic and conspiratorial plans by the counterrevolution and its masters. The Afghan people themselves and the various strata have taken up arms in defense of the democratic and popular system and their revolutionary gains against the professional killers who are trained and armed by the Americans in Pakistan and other countries and then sent into Afghanistan to engage in terrorism and subversion.

It is as a result of this total support by the Afghan people for the democratic government that today, despite all the efforts by the enemies -- imperialism and the region's reaction -- the situation in that country is being stabilized. This fact has caused the alarm of the imperialists, Beijing's leaders and the reactionary regimes of the region, such as Ziaul Haq's regime in Pakistan, and this is understandable. But what is not understandable to our homeland's people is why some of the Islamic authorities in our country, with respect to the Afghan problem, are moving on a path that is contrary to the principles of the Iranian revolution -- that is, against the anti-imperialist policy of the Islamic government.

Following the revolution's victory, the people have observed and are observing through experience that one cannot show even the slightest instance of an unfriendly act by the Afghan Government against revolutionary Iran. Officials of the Afghan Government have always reiterated the temporary friendship with revolutionary Iran and have demanded and continue to demand the peaceful resolution of all outstanding problems between the two neighboring countries. Only recently Mr Babrak Karmal once again explicitly declared his government's desire in this respect.

Our homeland's people firmly demand that the government conduct a review of its policy toward Afghanistan, which is our natural friend and ally, and clasp the hand of friendship which is being extended by this government toward us, thus paving the way for the settlement of outstanding problems and preparing the ground for the normalization of relations with that country.

IRNA REPORTS ON AFGHAN REBEL OPERATIONS

LD092102 Tehran IRNA in English 1947 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Text] Mashhad, Aug 9 IRNA -- Afghan Muslim mujahidin last week, in the region of Qandahar, attacked a column of joint Soviet-Afghan forces who were being supported by two helicopters.

In this operation, a large number of the joint forces were killed and 3 tanks of them were destroyed. One Afghan Muslim was also martyred and several others were wounded.

Meanwhile, reliable sources said that Afghan Muslim mujahidin also attacked the occupier Soviet forces in the region of Gur-e Mar recently. In this attack, 4 Russian personnel carriers, 3 vehicles carrying aircraft's bombs and ammunition were seized undamaged.

These sources further added that one of the seized vehicles was set ablaze by a Soviet MiG, when the mujahidin were transferring them. However, none of the Afghan strugglers was hurt.